

Serial No. 10/553,547

Art Unit: 2837
Examiner: Andrew R. Millikin**REMARKS**

In response to the Patent Office Letter of November 13, 2008, the Applicant respectfully requests re-examination and reconsideration. It is noted that the Examiner has indicated that claims 2, 3, 6-8, 13 and 18 are now allowed and that claims 14-17, 19 and 20 contain allowable subject matter. In the Patent Office Letter the Examiner has presented a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 pertaining to claims 14-17 and 19-20. The Applicant has carefully reviewed the indications made by the Examiner and has made appropriate amendments in the claims, particularly in claims 14 and 19. With these amendments, the rejections raised by the Examiner should now be overcome.

In addition, the Applicant has also reviewed all other dependent claims and has made additional amendments in these claims where appropriate in order to have a proper antecedent basis for all terms. Thus, further clarifying amendments have been made in claims 3, 6, 7, 16-18 and 20. The Applicant has also added new claims 21-27 which should be in good order.

It is believed that with the amendments in the claims, all claims in this application should now be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims pending in the above-identified application are in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

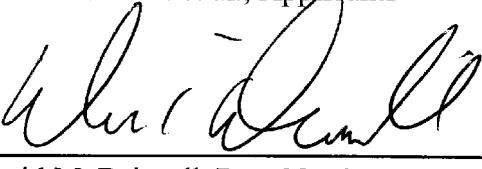
If the present application is found by the Examiner not to be in condition for allowance, then the Applicants hereby request a telephone or personal interview to facilitate the resolution of any remaining matters. Applicants' attorney may be contacted by telephone at the number indicated below to schedule such an interview.

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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any additional fees incurred as a result of the filing hereof to our Deposit Account No. 19-0120.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberto VALLI et al., Applicants

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